

## PRIMARY TRIADS PART I

A musical staff in 4/4 time showing the primary triads of the C major scale. The notes are: C (C4), Dm (D4, F4, A3), Em (E4, G4, B3), F (F4, A4, C5), G (G4, B4, D5), Am (A4, C5, E5), and Bdim (B4, D5, F5). Roman numerals I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, and vii° are written below each chord. The notes for the C, F, and G chords are highlighted in red.

Chords are built on the various scale degrees. The position of the chord in the scale determines how one chord tone relates to the other. You can call it tonal harmony, functional harmony or just the 'language of harmony'.

The *primary* triads of the scale are major I, IV, V. The roman numerals are used for harmonic analysis while the proper names are used when speaking or writing.

- I or Root is named *Tonic*.
- IV is named *Subdominant*.
- V is named the *Dominant*.